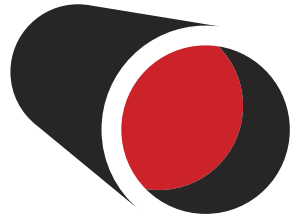


**STEVE
VICK**
INTERNATIONAL



SPECIAL CONTRACT SERVICES



INTRODUCTION

Steve Vick International is a world leader in developing techniques for the no-dig repair and replacement of pipes. Our expertise is based on over twenty years' experience in supplying specially developed resin foam sealant products and associated equipment to utilities and their contractors worldwide.

Our Special Contract Services teams provide on-site solutions to a wide variety of pipe renewal problems. Whilst the majority of our work involves the flow stopping and abandonment of gas mains and services, we also work in the water and civil engineering sectors, sealing off pipes, ducts and unwanted voids.

Qualified to GD Level 5 and based in the North and South of England, our highly experienced teams are able to respond quickly to customers' needs. For emergency repairs we offer a rapid call-out service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week within mainland UK.

Our teams have also carried out projects in Brazil, the USA and throughout mainland Europe.



Above: Our Contracts Director looks on during the live mains insertion of a 6" low pressure cast iron main with 125mm PE pipe.

Below and right: Flow stopping 20" and 24" diameter overhead gas mains using expanding polyurethane resin foam and our patented FOAMBAG™ technique, prior to abandonment.



FOAMING OFF LOW & MEDIUM PRESSURE GAS PIPES

SteveVick International has developed a polyurethane resin foam based flow stopping system called FOAMBAG™. Simple and inexpensive to use compared with conventional systems, the technique involves inserting a semi-porous bag into the pipe to hold in place a specially formulated resin foam while it expands. At full expansion some foam seeps through the semi-porous fabric to adhere to the pipe wall. The technique is used where sections of gas services or mains are to be abandoned.

The FOAMBAG™ system offers considerable savings over conventional flow stopping operations as it requires smaller excavations resulting in significantly lower reinstatement costs. In many cases, foaming off provides the only means of flow stopping a main without the need for extensive additional excavation.

The system meets National Grid Transco technical specification T/SP/E/59 and is documented in their Engineering Procedures.

Low pressure

We supply kits and application equipment for utilities to carry out their own operations on gas mains and services up to 10" diameter running at pressures up to 75 mbar.

Our Contract Services teams carry out all low pressure flow stopping work on pipes from 12" to 36" diameter.

Medium pressure

We carry out foam-offs of medium pressure gas services and mains from ¾" to 8" diameter. For larger diameters, foam-offs are carried out at reduced pressures.

Our teams drill the pipe and introduce the FOAMBAG™ under 'no gas' conditions using a special standpipe introduced through conventional drilling equipment. The foam is injected using a barrel gun operated with bottled nitrogen or a mix and inject machine, depending on the pipe diameter. An advantage of the system is that we are able to deal with tapering and vertical pipes as well as bends and non-standard sizes.

Benefits

- System meets National Grid Transco Specification
- Provides cost-effective and safe method of flow stopping mains & services to be abandoned
- Especially beneficial where space is at a premium—needs less pipe length to be excavated than conventional methods
- Suitable for non-standard sizes, tapers, bends and vertical pipework



Foaming off a 16" diameter low pressure gas main prior to insertion



On medium pressure services, the FOAMBAG™ is introduced under 'no gas' conditions using a special angled tee



A FOAMBAG™ operation on a medium pressure 6" gas main, Isle of Man.

TECHNIQUES FOR DEALING WITH 'STUB ENDS'

Abandoning gas main 'stub ends'

It is often impractical to disconnect a redundant main directly at its connection with the parent main. This may be because the tee piece is located under a busy junction or is in a sensitive area such as near a hospital or in the vicinity of a petrol station where the disruption caused by the work would be unacceptable.

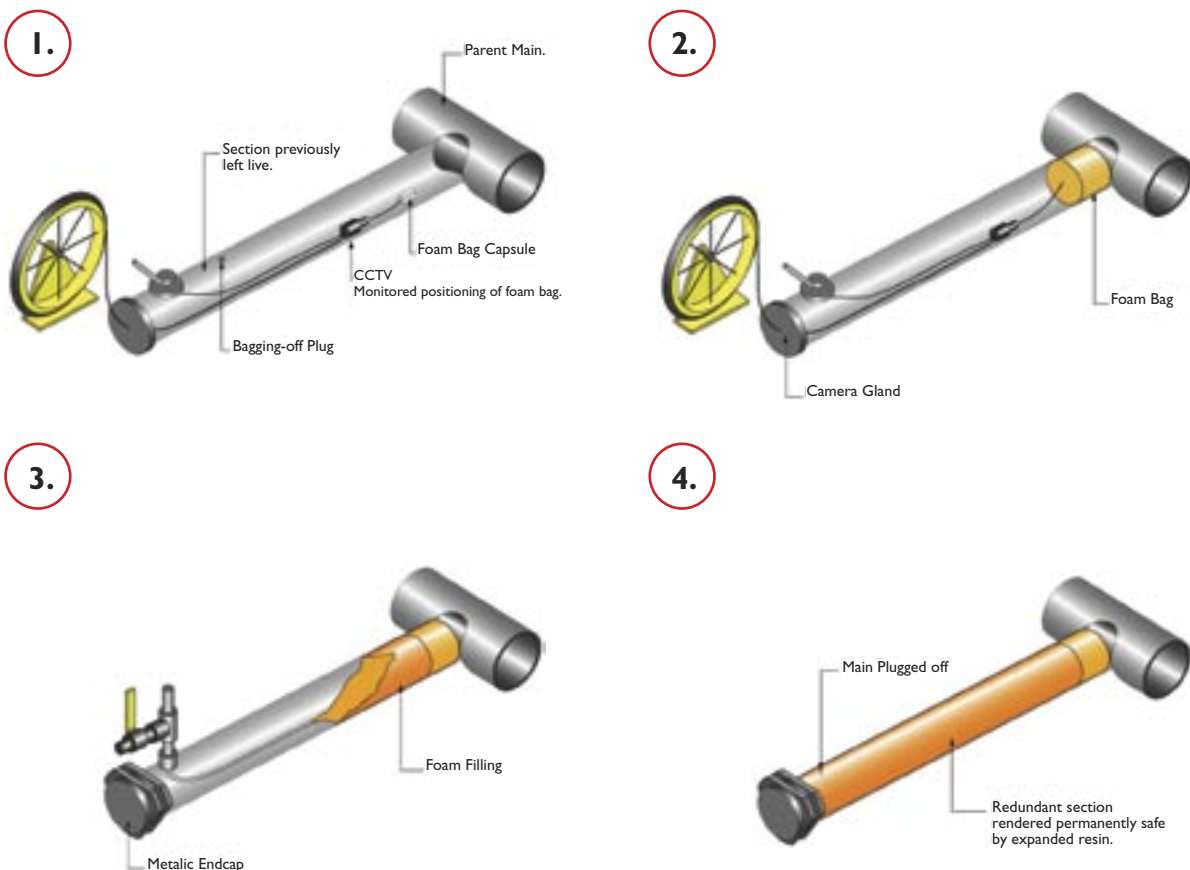
Our Special Contract Service teams carry out final abandonment of these unnecessary sections of main avoiding the risk of future leakage problems.

The technique we use—Stub End Abandonment Live or SEAL™—was developed jointly by Steve Vick International and Transco. It offers a secure and final abandonment of the short, live 'stub' end (typically 2 to 20 metres in length).

Using the well proven FOAMBAG™ foam sealant technology in conjunction with CCTV equipment, our teams excavate onto the stub end at a non-sensitive location. From here they insert the FOAMBAG™ and position it, with the aid of the camera, at the neck of the tee. It is then filled with foam and a permanent metallic end cap is fitted. Foam is then injected to fill the abandoned section of main.



A remote stub end abandonment being carried out live in a sensitive traffic area close to a hospital and police station



LIVE RISER TRANSFER

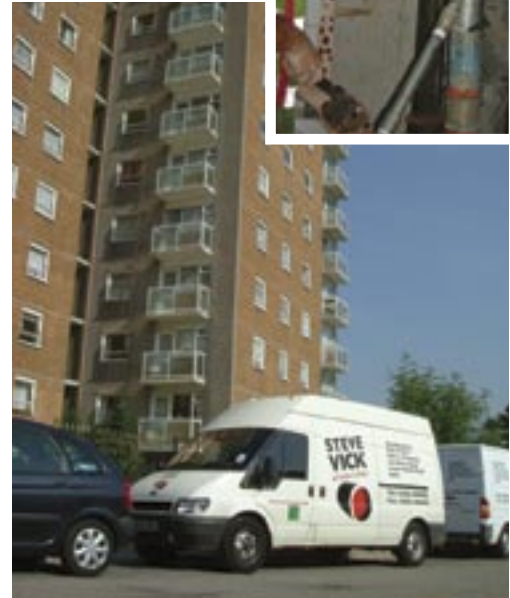
This technique, carried out by our Special Contract Service teams allows a gas riser within a building to be partly renewed or transferred to a new main without first decommissioning it.

It offers a solution to the problem of replacing services to high rise apartment blocks and enables sections of old service running under buildings to be abandoned.

As there is no need to disrupt customers' supplies, the technique avoids the need to test, purge and relight each dwelling in a block of flats.

Our operators use a special under pressure tee to drill the old riser before piecing in the new supply. The section of the old riser to be abandoned is then flowstopped using the tried and tested FOAMBAG™ technique and cut out.

Finally, the new service connection point and the live side of the abandoned section of the riser are encapsulated in a fabric muff which is injected with a special fire retardant material to provide a 30 minute fire check.



LIVE GAS MAINS INSERTION

Steve Vick International is a world leader in developing techniques for live gas mains insertion. Live mains insertion is 'normal' insertion of a cast iron main with PE but under live conditions. This means that customers' supplies are not interrupted until individual services are transferred when operationally convenient.

We offer a complete range of hardware and foam sealant kits for utility companies and contractors to carry out their own live insertion projects on low pressure mains from 3" upwards. However, on larger diameters—or when otherwise required—our Special Contract Services teams are available to offer the level of on-site support and technical assistance required by the individual customer. This may range from giving advice during the project to carrying out the foam-offs and assisting with the insertion.



A member of our Special Contract Service team provided on-site technical support during this low pressure live mains insertion project.

PIPE CUTTING & CAMERA SURVEYS

Pipe cutting

For customers wishing to abandon or cap off sections of gas main, we offer a pipe cutting service. If required, our Special Contract Services teams are also able to carry out flow stopping operations using the FOAMBAG™ technique (see page 3).

We offer both circumferential cutting for quick and safe cutting of cast iron, ductile iron and steel pipes from 4" to 24" in diameter as well as window cutting.

Window cutting

Our Special Contract Service teams use a lightweight, pneumatically or hydraulically powered cutter which has been specifically designed for the task.

The machine safely makes longitudinal cuts in pipes from 3" to 36" diameter, allowing a window to be cut out or a complete section to be removed to gain access to a previously inserted main. The depth of cut can be very accurately controlled to avoid the possibility of damaging an inserted pipe—particularly important in the case of close-fit linings.

CCTV Camera surveys

Our teams are able to carry out CCTV camera surveys of live or dead gas mains, typically to locate branch connections and plugs prior to insertion of a new PE pipe.

Customers find this service particularly beneficial where a pipe replacement operation is taking place at a busy road junction. Knowing the internal geography of the main avoids unnecessary excavation—a key cost concern.

On live mains, the camera is inserted through a 2" BSP tapping using a Wask tee set. Alternatively, particularly for larger diameters, the main can be flow stopped, cut out and a modified end cap fitted through which the camera is inserted.

Our camera produces colour pictures and is 'auto uprighting' to ensure a true image of the main.

The typical size of pipes we work on are in the range 4" to 10". Our teams also carry out CCTV camera surveys in connection with Live Stub End Abandonment and SEALBACK™ projects (see page 4).



Circumferential and window cutting of cast iron mains



CCTV imaging during a stub end abandonment project

SEALING OFF PIPES, DUCTS AND VOIDS

For sealing off abandoned pipework, filling annular spaces around inserted pipes or filling unwanted voids, we offer a low-cost system using either expanding resin foam or cementitious grout.

There is a need throughout the public utilities and civil engineering sectors to fill such voids in order to prevent the ingress of potentially dangerous water or gas.

When abandoning pipework we use specially tailored fabric muffs such as FOAMCAP™ or ENDSEAL™ in conjunction with expanding resin foam.

The grout is specially formulated to meet the requirements of the specific project and is pumped into the void using dedicated plant. In most situations, our well proven FOAMBAG™ technique is used to provide plugs at strategic positions to prevent the unwanted flow of the grout.

To prevent water etc. entering pumping stations, control rooms and chambers through pipe ducts, we offer a duct sealing service using expanding resin foam. Again, the FOAMBAG™ system is used to allow the liquid polyurethane resin to be correctly positioned before the foam expands to fill the void.

Typical uses include:

- Filing abandoned pipework
- Sealing the annulus between an old water main or sewer and a new inserted pipe
- Filling the annular gap in sleeved pipework at road, river or railway crossings
- Sealing off cable ducts
- Filling unwanted underground voids such as redundant storage tanks or dangerous cellar spaces
- Sealing ducts entering pumping stations, control rooms, plant rooms and chambers



Our FOAMCAP™ system is used to provide a low cost permanent seal on abandoned pipework.



Sealing underground sleeves and ducts prevents the ingress of water or gas



Sealing off redundant underground pipes at a power station

For information on our Foam Kits, Application Equipment, Pipe Pushing Machines & Pipe Coil Trailers,
please call customer services on 01225 480488



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